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Agenda item 25 (a)

Operational activities for development: operational activities for development of the United Nations system

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Anneli **Lepp** (Estonia)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 25 (see A/73/543, para. 2). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 23rd and 26th meetings, on 8 and 30 November 2018. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/73/L.8 and A/C.2/73/L.8/Rev.1 and amendment contained in document A/C.2/73/L.64

2. At the 23rd meeting, on 8 November, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Operational activities for development of the United Nations system" (A/C.2/73/L.8).

3. At its 26th meeting, on 30 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/73/L.8/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.8.

4. At the same meeting, the representative of Austria, on behalf of the States members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, made a statement and introduced a proposed amendment to draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.8/Rev.1, as contained in document A/C.2/73/L.64.

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in three parts, under the symbols A/73/543, A/73/543/Add.1 and A/73/543/Add.2.

[1] See A/C.2/73/SR.23 and A/C.2/73/SR.26.

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5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the proposed amendment had no programme budget implications.

6. Also at its 26th meeting, the Committee rejected the proposed amendment contained in document A/C.2/73/L.64 by a recorded vote of 107 to 45, with 12 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Iceland, Liechtenstein, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Turkey.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.8/Rev.1 had no programme budget implications.

8. Also at the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of Belarus.

9. Also at its 26th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.8/Rev.1 (see para. 10).

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

10. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including its general guidelines,

Reaffirming also its resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Reaffirming further its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement,[1] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming the importance of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities, through which the General Assembly establishes key system-wide strategic policy orientations and operational modalities for the development cooperation and country-level modalities of the United Nations development system,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the system-wide implementation of General Assembly resolution 71/243,[3] and welcomes his efforts on the repositioning of the United Nations development system;

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[1] Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[3] A/72/124-E/2018/3, A/72/684-E/2018/7 and A/73/63-E/2018/8.

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General and all entities of the United Nations development system to ensure full implementation of General Assembly resolutions 71/243 and 72/279, and stresses the urgency of implementing the mandates contained in paragraphs 4, 15, 19, 29, and 30 of its resolution 72/279, on which reporting is required at the operational activities for development segment of the Economic and Social Council session in May 2019;

3. *Stresses* the need to fully operationalize the three funding sources set out in paragraph 10 of its resolution 72/279, emphasizing that adequate, predictable and sustainable funding of the resident coordinator system remains a concern and is essential to delivering a coherent, effective, efficient and accountable response in accordance with national needs and priorities, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure independent and transparent management of the dedicated trust fund established for the reinvigorated resident coordinator system;

4. *Strongly urges* all Member States to provide voluntary contributions to the dedicated trust fund for the reinvigorated resident coordinator system in a timely manner for the inception period;

5. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure full achievement of the efficiency gains envisioned in the report of the Secretary-General[4] in a timely manner and to redeploy these efficiency gains for development activities, including coordination;

6. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council on progress made in the implementation of the mandates contained in its resolutions 71/243 and 72/279, as part of his annual reporting to the Council at the operational activities for development segment of its 2019 session, and to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session for its further consideration and to inform the next cycle of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, to be launched in 2020;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Operational activities for development", the sub-item entitled "Operational activities for development of the United Nations system".

[4] A/72/684-E/2018/7.